Hospitality and Tourism Career Cluster

What is the Hospitality and Tourism Career Cluster?

The Hospitality and Tourism Career Cluster focuses on preparing students for careers in the continually expanding Hospitality and Tourism Industry. An important aspect of Hospitality and Tourism is the diversity of career pathways represented including Culinary Arts, Travel and Tourism, Lodging Management, Convention Bureau/Conference Planning and Recreation, and Amusements and Attractions.

Why get involved with Hospitality and Tourism?

This is a major source of revenue for the state of NH, as well as one of the fastest growing industries in the United States and the World. Currently over 65,000 people in the state are employed in this field in both full and part time positions. Projections show the growth of Hospitality and Tourism in NH to be in the area of 5% per year. Nationally, it is the second-largest private employer generating hundreds of billions of dollars in payroll, receipts and taxes. There is an increased demand within the industry for professional certification and increased education.

What are the connections to Business and Industry?

The industry realizes that to meet its future employee needs, it must make the connection with schools and their career-based programs. Many industry employers are excited about the prospect of employing students and graduates with strong basic skill sets as well as a knowledge and interest in joining an industry that can take them anywhere in the world. Many businesses are interested in working with Pathway schools to create paid internship programs for their students.

Business and Industry Partners

Some very important partners in this are the New Hampshire Travel Council, New Hampshire Lodging and Restaurant Association, the New Hampshire Office of Travel and Tourism Development, The Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce, The Balsams Grand Resort, the Mount Washington Hotel and The Red Jacket Inn.

What is the role of postsecondary education?

Continuing education in a two-year or four-year program leading to an associates or Bachelors degree is very important to a student's credentials. Articulation agreements exist between NH High Schools and The NH Community Technical Colleges in Berlin and Laconia, The NH Technical Institute in Concord, Hesser College, and Johnson and Wales University. These agreements allow students to transfer credits from their High School courses, or will carry transferable credit with the NHCTC Running Start Program.

Apprenticeships

Several resorts also have Apprenticeship programs, which combine on-the-job training with college study, leading to an associate's degree or a certification by the American Culinary Foundation.

How many programs are available that are Hospitality and Tourism related?

We currently have 19 Culinary Arts/Food Service Management Programs, one Lodging Management Program, and nine Hospitality and Tourism Programs.

What resources are available to help schools implement the Hospitality and Tourism pathway?

The Introduction to the Hospitality Industry Curriculum Guide, developed by the North Country School-to-Career Regional Partnership, is available to NH high schools. It was designed to provide an introductory course to students who might be interested in any of the Hospitality career fields.

For More Information

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